



NICOS Chinese Health Coalition is a public-private-community partnership of more than 30 health and human service organizations and concerned individuals. The mission of NICOS is to enhance the health and well-being of San Francisco's Chinese community.

The acronym, "NICOS," stands for the first initials of the five founding members. Additional organizations and individual members have since joined to form the overall health coalition.

Founding Members:

North East Medical Services
Chinese Community Health Care Association (IPA)

Chinese Hospital

On Lok Lifeways

Self- Help for the Elderly

Additional Members:

(partial listing)

APA Family Support Services
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum
Asian Women's Resource Center
Chinatown Child Development Center
Chinatown Community Children's Center
Chinatown Community Development Center
Chinatown/ North Beach Mental Health Services (DPH)
Chinatown Public Health Center (DPH)
Chinatown YMCA
Chinese Community Health Plan
Chinese Community Health Resource Center
Chinese Hospital Medical Staff
Chinese Newcomers Service Center
Community Youth Center
Donaldina Cameron House
Gordon J. Lau Elementary
HealthRight 360
Kai Ming Inc.
Kaiser Permanente
National Council of Asian and Pacific Islander Physicians
Newcomers Health Program (DPH)
Richmond Area Multi-Services, Inc.
San Francisco CARD
San Francisco Health Plan
St. Mary's Chinese Day School
St. Mary's Medical Center – Asian Physician Advisory Committee (APAC)
University of California, San Francisco- Memory and Aging Center
University of California, Davis-Dept of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science
Wu Yee Children's Services
(Partial List)

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October 9, 2025

To: San Francisco Commission Streamlining Task Force

Re: Keep the Sugary Drinks Distributor Tax Advisory Committee (SDDTAC)

Dear Commission Streamlining Task Force Members:

On behalf of NICOS Chinese Health Coalition and as a native San Franciscan, I am writing to **strongly urge you to keep the Sugary Drinks Distributor Tax Advisory Committee (SDDTAC)**. The SDDTAC was created by the will of the voters following Proposition V's passage in November 2016, which established a one-cent-per-ounce tax on sugary drinks distributed in the City. The funds are used to address the many and varied health harms created by the consumption of soda and other sugary beverages. The Committee's role is to ensure that these revenues are used transparently, equitably and responsibly with the overarching goal to advance community health and wellbeing.

The recommendation to eliminate the SDDTAC or merge it with the Food Security Task Force would undermine public trust and voter confidence in the intent of the legislation approved by San Franciscans. As a former SDDTAC member myself, I've had a hand in and continue to witness the Committee playing a vital role in ensuring accountability and elevating the voices of communities most impacted by health inequities.

Again, I urge the Task Force to honor the will of the voters and keep the SDDTAC as a stand-alone advisory body of transparency, equity, and community engagement in our city's public health efforts. If you have any questions or would like further comments, please feel free to contact me at this email address or 415.788.6426.

Sincerely,

Kent Woo, MSW
Executive Director